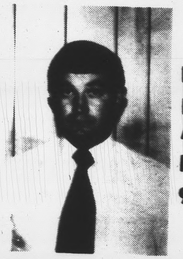
# APPOMATTOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU

**YOUR LOCAL VOICE IN PRESERVING AND MANAGING AGRICULTURE IN APPOMATTOX**

**PROVIDING SERVICES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF FARMERS AND FARM FAMILIES IN APPOMATTOX**

**FARMOWNERS - HOMEOWNERS - AUTO - LIFE**



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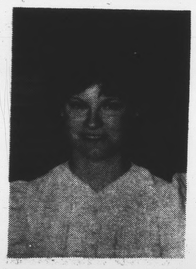




*County's largest dairy*

# Hix Brothers: all in the family

It's "all in the family" on the Hix Brothers Dairy Farm.

The 1,100-acre operation has been farmed continuously by the Hix family since before the Civil War. Today, the top-producing dairy in Appomattox County is owned and managed by brothers John and William Hix.

The family farming tradition is guaranteed life for at least another generation with the decision of all four Hix sons to remain on the farm. "We didn't encourage the boys to stay on the farm," John said. "They each made their own decision."

Farming seems to be in the blood of the Hix family. John and William, who married sisters Florence and Glenna Oliver, began their dairying career in 1945. "The farm had always been strictly a tobacco farm," William recalled. "We decided to try dairying in 1945."

The decision proved to be a wise one for the farming partners. The Hixes have seen their business expand from a milking herd of 30 cows to 120 superior Holsteins. Along with this expansion has been a continual increase in milk production to the present average of 17,000 pounds of milk and 560 pounds of butterfat per cow.

Activity has slowed considerably around the farm site since its earlier years. Still standing and being occupied by the Hixes are several buildings and houses that formed the pre-Civil War village of "Hixburg." A former stage stop, the small community was formed by John and William's enterprising grandfather.

"From what we understand, he was quite a character," John said. "He had a tavern, barber shop, law office and general store--everything for the traveler's needs. He even developed his own coinage."

William continues, "By educating himself through mail correspondence, he got his law degree. At the

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TO INSURE A HIGH QUALITY feed for the dairy herd, forage grown on the farm is tested for fiber and protein content. Here John obtains a core sample to send to Virginia Tech for analysis.


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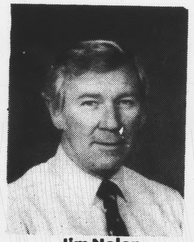
It is our pledge at Jim Nolen Associates to listen to your particular needs in real estate and then respond with our experience to help you with buying or selling.



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